

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 140  
By Cole (Carter)

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the congregation of  
the Stoney Creek Baptist Church upon their  
175th Anniversary.

WHEREAS, this legislative body finds it appropriate to recognize and congratulate those  
churches who through faith, values and unfaltering commitment are celebrating a special day of  
achievement; and

WHEREAS, Stoney Creek Baptist Church in Elizabethton is one such outstanding  
religious institution, celebrating 175 years of excellence; and

WHEREAS, in July of 1820, a group of Christians met at the home of Thomas Evans to  
make plans for the forming of the Stoney Creek Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 1822, the Stoney Creek Baptist Church was officially  
organized, making it the second oldest church in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Reece Bayless was called to be the first pastor; and

WHEREAS, by 1837, the church had grown to 192 members and was one of the largest  
churches in the area; and

WHEREAS, in order to make the church more centrally located, the Stoney Creek  
Baptist Church built a new meeting house known as the "Old Log Meeting House"; and

**\*51913821\***

51913821

**\*003808\***

\*00380837\*

WHEREAS, in 1868, the Stoney Creek Baptist Church, along with thirteen other churches, organized the Watauga Baptist Association at the Cobbs Creek Church in Johnson County; and

WHEREAS, today, the church attracts members from the entire Elizabethton community and is headed by the Reverend Richard Estep; and

WHEREAS, the Stoney Creek Baptist Church continues to grow, and in 1990 a new fellowship hall was added; and

WHEREAS, churches such as the Stoney Creek Baptist Church are truly the rock-solid foundation upon which our society is built and a beacon of sanity and continuity in these turbulent times; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we pause to specially recognize Stoney Creek Baptist Church on their 175th Anniversary as one of the outstanding religious institutions of this state; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby congratulate Reverend Richard Estep and the congregation of the Stoney Creek Baptist Church on 175 years of service, commitment and dedication to the Elizabethton community and to this state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.